PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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AN OPPORTUNITY.

To-morrow His Excellency the Governor of Madras pays the State a visit. It is an informal visit but it is an important one. It is, in short, a war visit.

Not that His Highness the Raja, the Darbar, and the people of the State will make Sir Arthur Hope any less warmly welcome on that account, or that that they are any less honoured at being allowed to entertain him even for the very short period of his stay. The point, nevertheless, is that His Excellency is kindly interrupting an arduous war-tour, and adding to his already great personal war effort, in order to sympathise with and encourage our own war effort.

It therefore behoves everyone with the State's tradition for hospitality and loyalty at heart to attend to the welcome, and heed the words of one so high in the councils of Empire, so deeply sympathetic to the needs of the people he governs, and so outstanding a War-worker.

We dare to prophecy that his speech at the Public Meeting in the Town Hall will be something which Pudukkottians will remember and respond to. He will preach loyalty, confidence and steady pursuance of daily duties and responsibilities; he will emphasise the dangers of irresponsible chit-chat, rumour-mongering and panic, and the folly of hoarding bullion and valuables when it is both more sensible and more patriotic to invest in Government Bonds and War Loans;

he will convince us of the certainty of ultimate victory for the Empire and its Allies if every man of those freedom-loving peoples can be brought to 'do his bit.'

But there will be much more to His Excellency's visit than a repetition of printed arguments. The people of the State are to be brought into touch with not only an experienced 'pro-consul of empire' and an outstanding personality, but with one who has proved himself a self-sacrificing Leader of the People in a mighty cause—the defence of mankind against the deviltries of Hitlerism.

LECTURE LXXXI.

ROLE OF ALLIED GOVERNMENTS IN LONDON.
ASSISTING BRITAIN ON EVERY FRONT.
POLISH AND CZECH REINFORCEMENTS FOR RUSSIA.
HOW GREEK VESSELS HELPED TOBRUK DEFENCE.

by

Philip J. Noel-Baker, M. P.

(*In a recent B. B. C. talk*).

There was a legend in England a year ago that when the last British troop-ship pushed off from Cherbourg after the collapse of France, an old British salt was heard to say, "Thank God, that is the last of our Allies, now we can fight for ourselves alone." Perhaps it was good for us in those dark days to believe that we stood alone. Perhaps it helped us to give the last ounce of our effort, but happily for us it was never true.

From the day that France fell that June, we had always had allies at our side, allies who made a splendidly courageous contribution, allies whose joint strength may well have bridged the gap between our powers of resistance and our defeat. These allies are the free agents of the conquered nations.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC.

To-day there are in Britain no fewer than eight Goverments of European States, besides the Free French movement under General de Gaulle. These Governments are the legal, constitutional representatives of their peoples.

They left their own countries and came to Britain because, as Queen Wilhelmina of Holland has explained, the "invasion of the Nazis had made it absolutely certain" that she and her Ministers could no longer continue freely to exercise legal authority in the Netherlands. Therefore, like the rulers of the other outraged countries, she and her Ministers resolved, she said, to take the hard but necessary decision to remove the seat of Government abroad.

These are constitutional governments. They have in London duly organised government departments, their own civil service, their own law courts, the power to conscript their citizens for national service, the skeleton administration of the modern state, guided and controlled by Cabinet Ministers, who meet as regularly and as constitutionally as if they were at home.

They are not only constitutional governments, they are democratic governments as well. Some of them, for instance the government of Norway, have a definite mandate from their Parliament to carry on. While German bombs fell all around them, for the Nazis have termed Parliaments military objectives, the gallant Norwegian Storting unanimously voted full power for the King and Government for the duration of the war, and authorised them to use those powers outside Norway, if that should be required.

"STUPENDOUS CONTRIBUTION".

Most of these governments have formed national councils in which leading members of different parties are given seats, where the action of the Governments can be criticised, where any matter of public policy can be freely and democratically discussed.

"Cabinets, government departments, law courts, national councils, these may look fine on paper—but what", I hear you ask, "can they do in practice? What do they administer if they are exiled to foreign countries? Are they not in truth what Goebbels calls them, 'a parade of goats'?"

No, they are not. The Dutch Government rules its Empire with 60,000,000 people and great natural resources, both in East and West. The Belgian Government rules its Empire in Central Africa. General de Gaulle rules French Colonies with a total territory seven times the size of France.

This is a total war in which the control of raw materials will be decisive Think then what a stupendous contribution these Colonial territories are making to the Allied cause.

The Dutch Government also have a fleet of merchant vessels. The Norwegian Government have a merchant fleet of 4,000,000 tons and the Greek Government have close on 1,000,000 tons.

A year ago the greatest single danger to the cause of freedom was Hitler's subamarine and air attack against our ocean-borne supplies. We know from Hitler's parachute emissary, Rudolf Hess, that Hitler genuinely believed that he could starve us out.

Think of the vast tonnages of ships these Allies brought us, all manned by Greek, Dutch and Norwegian crews. Remember the fearful risks their sailors run every day they are at sea, and you will see what a tremendous service they have rendered to our cause.

FULLY TRAINED DIVISIONS.

These Governments have armed forces under their commands. In recent weeks we have all been talking with the deepest admiration of great feats of the Dutch Navy in the Pacific war. But in the Atlantic, in the North Sea, and above all in the Mediterranean, there have been splendid exploits by the warships of our allies. Among them they have 187 vessels, including one French battleship, three cruisers, 27 destroyers, many submarines and a total personnel of 14,000 men.

It is against the public interest to give the full figure of their arms, but among them they have a good number of fully trained divisions serving the Allied cause. In the Soviet Union, the Poles and the Czechs are both raising big new forces, which will be a powerful reinforcement for our splendid Russian allies in the spring.

Again, it would be against the public interest to say how many squadrons of Allied aircraft there are at our command. We know that they are fighting with us on every front. We know that in the Battle of Britain a fine squadron of Czech fighters scored 50 victories against the Nazis. A month ago we buried a gallant Belgian pilot who shot down four Messerschmitts in a single day.

A TYPICAL STORY.

We know that our Allies always ask to go where the fight is hardest. One of the epics of the war has been the defence of Tobruk against a nine-month siege. When the siege was ended, there were Polish and Czech brigades among the garrison.

A Free French bomber squadron played a foremost part in the operations of relief. Through all the nine months of the siege, small Greek merchant vessels and war ships ran the gauntlet of Axis artillery and air attack, and helped to bring in food and ammunition by which the defence was carried on.

The courage of our Allies is a by-word. I like especially one story about the Poles. One day our Fighter Command rang up the Coastal Command to tell them that our fighters were attacking a submarine in the English Channel. "For God's sake call them off," said the Coastal Command, "it is our submarine."

"Sorry," said the Fighter Command, "no good trying to call them off. They are Polish fighters."

"That is bad," replied the Coastal command," it is a Polish submarine."

ANOTHER SERVICE.

And there is another service which our allies render. They keep the soul of conquered Europe alive. The Norwegians have a broadcaster whose voice has been known for many years in every Norwegian farm and hamlet, and whose inspiring leadership has been of a value that no one can dispute. Who has not heard broadcasts from our Free Frenchmen here? A year ago not one of the names of these men was known in France. To-day, they speak not only to, but for their nation.

And now, we have begun to organise the joint action by Governments in our Allied Council. We and they are looking beyond the end of the desperate struggle. We are planning for a world that shall be prosperous and at peace. Here in Britain we have begun to hammer out the democratic machinery and methods by which that great ideal shall at last be brought about.

We are thinking in terms of Europe, not that tragic Europe where men are killed, slaughtering each other in the cities and in the fields, but the Europe of art and music and science and literature, of constructive public work, democratic freedom and social progress. That Europe is being born in Britain to-day.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

31—1—42 to 6—2—42.

Russia.—None of the excuses which the Nazis have so far invented for their present failure in RUSSIA is perhaps so fantastic as the explanation that the German armies have hypnotised the Soviets and draw them behind them 'like a magnet'. This is perhaps the result of the recent transfer of command from experienced Generals to Hitler who wishes to win by mysticism, intuition and wizardry.

After two months of continuous retreat the Nazis have now approached positions in the rear which they had long prepared for their winter quarters, and the Russian advance in consequence has slowed down, having to fight for every inch of territory which a ruthless enemy has already laid waste.

The enemy is not beaten yet, and judging by the enormous preparations which he is known to be making he is also hoping for a spring offensive upon the coveted CAUCASUS. Hence Marshal Timoshenko's present drive in the Donetz basin is particularly significant. The recapture of BERESTOVIC, 100 miles west of TAGANROG on the sea of Azov, is thus important. The railway line from the Donetz basin to Moscow has been reopened to Russian traffic, and the Russian armies have advanced to within 80 miles of KHARKOV and 40 miles of DNEPROPETROVSK, the great industrial centre. Up in the north the contending forces are racing towards VIASMA, and should the Russians reach it first a German army of 100,000 will surely be trapped. In the CRIMEA, though the re-occupation of FEUDOSIA by the Germans is a set back, the pressure on SEBASTOPOL has been somewhat relieved, and the fighting has become local. The state of the hostile forces here is also reported to be deteriorating.

Libya.—The arrival of fresh enemy re-inforcements in LIBYA has necessitated a temporary withdrawal of the Imperial light forces from BENGHAZI, and the enemy pushing through BARCE, JEBEL AKDAR MARUA and EL ABIAR has retaken DERNA, but the decisive battle of this region has yet to be fought. In these rear-guard actions Indian contingents have played a gallant part. The 7th Indian Brigade, for instance, covered BENGHAZI on the eve of evacuation, and subsequently broke through the enemy encirclement inflicting heavy casualties. After a fine march over 200 miles of desert, it has now returned intact to its base. The 11th Infantry Brigade carried out a successful counter-attack, and the 4th and 29th Infantry Brigades distinguished themselves in rear-guard actions at MSUS and JEBEL AKDAR.

The Far East.—Though JAPAN is now 'making hell while the sun shines' signs are already apparent that the nemesis of its far-flung ambition is not far off. The best news of the week is the successful attack on the MARSHALL and GILBERT Islands by the U. S. Pacific Fleet. These islands are either Japanese mandated or owned. It is reported that many enemy fleet auxiliaries were either sunk or damaged in the encounter. Though the strategic result may not be great its psychological effect is apparent. The American Armada has reached the Pacific waters; and Admiral Chester Nimitz Commander-in-Chief of the American Pacific Fleet has declared, 'Every ship and every man of the U. S. Pacific Fleet are now being utilised to the fullest extent to bring the war to the enemy's front door'.

Other encouraging signs are not wanting. The stout resistance put up by MacArthur's men, the sinking of ships and still more Japanese ships in the MACASSAR Straits, the heavy casualties of the enemy in the JOHORE area, and the signal successes of the Chinese on their own soil, added to the reports of a 'large-scale Chinese offensive' which is said to be 'imminent', are factors which indicate the turn of the tide.

The situation at present is as follows:—

Malaya.—The battle of JOHORE is over and the siege of SINGAPORE has begun. The heroic troops which fought a rear-guard action for two months on the mainland, have now retired to the island and constitute its garrison. The JOHORE causeway connecting the island with the mainland has been destroyed. Enemy air activity over the island is intensifying, and our big guns on the island are pounding enemy concentrations on the mainland. Considerable enemy movements southward of the peninsula are reported. 'The present task,' says Sir Henry Pownall, 'is to hold SINGAPORE till help comes' and he adds, 'assuredly it will come.' 'A big movement by the Allies is under way,' assures Mr. F. M. Forde the Australian Minister of War and he adds:—

"Each hour the enemy is held at bay permits of the concentration and deployment of more reinforcements, and the accumulation of more war implements.

"Big movements are under way—you will not be left alone with empty hands. The entire Allied nations are behind you, and all their resources will be speeded to you."

Burma.—Our troops have evacuated MOULMEIN, and taken up their stand at MARTABAN to the west of the Salween river. TOKYO's claim to have infiltrated across the river is unconfirmed. On the other hand, a successful attack on enemy troops on an island in the Salween estuary, and the wiping out of a Japanese column which attempted to cross the river, are reported.

Two aerodromes in central BURMA have been attacked from the air. RANGOON harbour has been raided without material damage. The daily cargo clearance at the port continues to be about 1,000 tons. RANGOON had its first night raid on the 3rd.

Mr. Churchill has sent the assurance, "Reinforcements will soon reach not only BURMA but our great Chinese Allies."

The Japanese objective is no doubt the BURMA Road, which the Chinese must now defend at all costs.

Netherlands East Indies.—AMBOINA has been isolated and PONTIANAK, capital of Dutch West BORNEO has been occupied. Semao Strait and KESPANG in TIMOR, SOURABAYA, MALANG, MADIOEN, MAGEIANG and ROMBANG in JAVA; and POSOL in CELEBES have been raided. Allied aircraft have shot down 9 enemy planes in the MACASSAR Straits in the past few days. On Monday U. S. aircraft sank two Japanese transports off BALIK PAPAN.

The Philippines.—MacArthur's defence of the BATAAN peninsula is making history. Rejecting, as it deserved, the Japanese demand for a surrender, he continues to repulse the Japanese attacks with all his might. All the threats on the west coast have now been 'completely mastered', and attempts to effect fresh landings here have also been 'broken up'.

Oceania.—Japanese planes have bombed BULOLO, SALAMUA and PORT MORESBY in NEW GUINEA.

China is playing her part in the defence of the FAR EAST, and has already inflicted a crushing blow on the Japanese at CHANGSHA. Having been forced out of POKLO the Japanese are now in full retreat towards CANTON. As a result of the capture of TONGTOWHA and SHALOW, Japanese communications have been cut between CANTON and HONGKONG. Chinese forces have counter-attacked the enemy with success on both sides of the East River.

Three speeches.—All AMERICA and the World welcomed President Roosevelt's 60th birthday, which fell on January 30, as a fitting occasion on which to remember and recognise the great services he had done to the cause of the Allies and humanity. The proceeds of 1,200 dances and parties held on that day in U. S. go to fight infantile paralysis. In a nation-wide broadcast on that day President Roosevelt reiterated his abiding faith in the future and in democracy, and held out a definite assurance that 'we are going to win through'.

On the same day Hitler made a long wearisome speech in the Sportspalat Hall at BERLIN, on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of his assumption of power. After referring to the Axis as a band of 'Have-nots', he admitted the numerical superiority of the Allies. He

called himself the first musketeer of the Reich, but added that his great need was 'munitions and more munitions'. He did not know if the war would end this year.

Mussolini made the third speech of the week, which was on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the foundation of the Fascist militia. He praised his blackshirts for their 'Victories' (!) in AFRICA, SPAIN, GREECE, and RUSSIA, though these 'Victories' have made him lose AFRICA and keep him in Greece only as Hitler's deputy. In RUSSIA he is a despised camp follower.

The Anglo-Soviet-Persian Treaty of Alliance was signed at TEHERAN on January 29, with 9 articles based on the Atlantic Charter. The Allies have agreed to defend the integrity, sovereignty and political independence of PERSIA, and defend it from aggression. Without constituting a military occupation the Allies will maintain their own forces in Persian territory for the duration of the war and six months after.

The Anglo-Ethiopian Alliance.—Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Minister, announcing in the House of Commons on February 3 the signing of an agreement between GREAT BRITAIN and ABYSSINIA, stated that the Emperor had decided to abolish slavery in his dominions, and had invited British assistance to reorganise the army and the judiciary. GREAT BRITAIN has agreed to finance the Emperor with £ 1,500,000 in the first year, reducing it by £ 500,000 in the next two years and to £ 250,000 in the 4th year, the object being to make ETHIOPIA depend less and less on foreign help, and gradually develop her own finances. A British force will be maintained for strategic reasons.

Vichy West Africa.—Koadio Adiomani, king of BONDUKU on the Ivory Coast of West AFRICA has joined the Free French. He is the most important native leader in the central and southern region of the Ivory Coast. This area has hitherto been controlled by Vichy.

Britain's Daily War Expenditure has mounted to £ 9½ millions a day.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
26—1—42 (Monday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY :—			
Offensive Sweeps over Northern FRANCE.		2 planes.	
NIGHT :—			
Military objectives in HANOVER and EMDEN. **A few other places** in North-west GERMANY. **The docks** at BREST.		3 planes.	
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Enemy tanks armoured cars and motorised units in the MSUS, ANTELAT and JEDABAYA areas.	Many vehicles completely destroyed. Many fires started.		
Enemy motor transport in the JEDABAYA and EL AGHEILA areas.			
Lorries and a wireless station near HOMS.			
SICILY. (By British planes)			
Hangars and runaways at CATANIA.			
Buildings and hangars at COMISO.			
EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		8 planes	20 planes.
FAR EAST—(By American and British planes).			
BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
Motor lorries on the KAWKAREIK—MYAWADDI Road.	Enemy lorries machine-gunned.		
MALAYA. (By American and British planes).			
An Enemy convoy off ENDAU			

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
27—1—42 (Tuesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
NIGHT :—			
The docks at BREST and BOULOGNE.		No loss.	
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Enemy motorised units on the MSUS-ANTELAT and MSUS-SHELE DIMA tracks.	Many vehicles damaged.		
Enemy road and convoys west of SIRTE. **Shipping** in the harbour at TRIPOLI.			
SICILY. (By British planes).			
Air combats over the Sicilian aerodromes of COMISO and AUGUSTA.		2 Planes.	2 planes.
EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		7 planes.	29 planes.
FAR EAST (By American and British planes).			
MALAYA. (By American and British planes).			
An enemy aerodrome in KUANTAN	Heavily damaged.		
THAILAND. (By American and British planes).			
BANGKOK	Big fires started.		
PACIFIC. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy shipping in the MACASSAR Straits.	One transport sunk ; another set on fire. A cruiser hit.		
28—1—42 (Wednesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
NIGHT :—			
Military objectives at MUNSTER. **The docks** at BOULOGNE and ROTTERDAM. **Air fields** in the Low Countries and Northern FRANCE.		6 planes.	

28—1—42 (Wednesday)—cont.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Enemy motor vehicles south of BENGHAZI and in SHELEIDIMA area. — 50 motor lorries destroyed.

Motor transport and military buildings east of TRIPOLI.

EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front. — 8 planes. 27 planes.

FAR EAST—MALAYA. (By American and British planes).

Aerodrome at KUALA LUMPUR.

NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).

Japanese shipping at RABAUL. — One ship directly hit.

PACIFIC. (By American and British planes).

Enemy convoys in the MACASSAR Straits. — 1 transport sunk; another set on fire.

THAILAND. (By American and British plances).

The docks at BANGKOK. — Big fires started among some.

29—1—42 (Thursday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

DAY:—

A factory in Northern FRANCE.

No information available about night operations.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Concentrations of enemy motor transport at JADABAYA.

Enemy mobile units, transport parks and barracks between TRIPOLI and BUERAT-EL HSUN.

MEDITERRANEAN. (By British planes).

An enemy tanker escorted by a destroyer in the central MEDITERRANEAN.

EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire Front. — 4 planes. 18 planes.

FAR EAST—MALAYA. (By American and British planes.)

Enemy mechanised forces near BATU PAHAT.

30—1—42 (Friday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes.)

No information available.

LIBYA. (By British planes).

Enemy supply lines between SIRTE and RAS EL ALAI.

Motor transport and encampments between JADABAYA and EL AGHEILA. — Fires and explosions started.

The harbour and shipping at TRIPOLI.

Motor traffic and barrack buildings between MISURATA and ZLITEN.

EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front. — 5 planes. 20 planes.

FAR EAST—MALAYA (By American and British planes).

Aerodromes in occupied MALAYA.

31—1—42 (Saturday).

GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).

NIGHT:—

The docks at BREST, LE HAVRE and ST. NAZAIRE. — 4 planes.

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
31—1—42 (Saturday)—*cont.*			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Enemy motorised units moving along the GHEMINES—BENGHAZI road and in the EL KHARRUBA and MSUS areas. **The harbour and a motor transport depot** at TRIPOLI. **Enemy naval vessels** at BUERAT EL HSUN.		No loss.	—
EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		2 planes.	7 planes.
MALAYA. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy mechanised troops and motorised vehicles in South MALAYA.			
PACIFIC. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy shipping in MACASSAR Straits.			
1—2—42 (Sunday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
No information available.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Motorised units and fuel-carrying transport on the roads between SIRTE, RASEL ADLI and MARUA areas.	Many vehicles destroyed. Heavy casualties among enemy personnel.		
Enemy road convoys west of BUERAT EL HSUN.			
TRIPOLI			
EASTERN FRONT. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the entire Front.		3 planes.	11 planes.

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
FAR EAST—MALAYA. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy re-inforcements in the JOHORE—BAHRU area;			
Air fields at KUALA LUMPUR and KUANTAN.			9 planes.
NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES. (By American and British planes).			
Enemy shipping in the harbour at BALIK PAPAN.		1 bomber.	9 fighters.

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.	Aircraft losses for Allies.
27—1—42 (Tuesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No air activity at all.			
RUSSIA. (By German planes).			
MOSCOW.		4 planes.	
BURMA. (By Jap planes).			
RANGOON.	Very slight damage.		
MALAYA. (By Jap planes).			
SINGAPORE.			
28—1—42 (Wednesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No air activity.			
MEDITERRANEAN (By German planes).			
MALTA.		1 plane.	1 plane.
RUSSIA. (By German planes).			
MOSCOW.		2 planes.	
FAR EAST—MALAYA (By Jap planes).			
SINGAPORE.		1 plane.	
BURMA. (By Jap planes).			
RANGOON.		7 planes; and probably six more.	

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.	Aircraft losses for Allies.
29—1—42 (Thursday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—				
	A place on the North-east coast of SCOTLAND.	Some damage and a few casualties.		
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA (By Jap planes).			
	RANGOON.		12 planes.	
30—1—42 (Friday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
	No information available.			
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—MALAYA. (By Jap planes).			
	SINGAPORE.			
31—1—42 (Saturday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
MORNING :—				
	A place in Northern IRELAND.			
NIGHT :—				
	No information available.			
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—BURMA (By Jap planes).			
	RANGOON.			
	NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).			
	BULOLO.			
	SALAMAUA.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.	Aircraft losses for Allies.
1—2—42 (Sunday).				
	BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
DAY :—				
	Two places in East ANGLIA.			
NIGHT :—				
	No information			
	MEDITERRANEAN (By German planes).			
	MALTA			
	FAR EAST—MALAYA. (By Jap planes).			
	SINGAPORE.			
	N. E. I. (By Jap planes).			
	TIMOR.			
	AMBOINA.			
2—2—42 (Monday).				
	BRITAIN (By German planes).			
DAY :—				
	East coast of ENGLAND.		1 plane.	
	MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
	MALTA.			
	FAR EAST—MALAYA—(By Jap planes).			
	SINGAPORE.			
	BURMA. (By Jap planes).			
	The harbour at RANGOON.			
	N. E. I. (By Jap planes).			
	POSO (CELEBES).			
	BANKA.			

SIDE LIGHTS.

A SHIP A DAY...... Keeps the Japs away! In the six weeks of war ending January 30, we have definite news of the sinking of 48 Japanese tankers, transports and supply ships by the Americans and the Dutch. Since that we have round figures of the costly Japanese venture in the Straits of MACASSAR, where 46 vessels of all kinds were destroyed by the American naval and air forces. Some of these were doubtless small—there are no details to hand—but these losses added to the estimated 300,000 tons lost in the previous six weeks must be very worrying indeed to our latest enemy with armies to maintain in CHINA, the PHILIPPINES, MALAYA, and the EAST INDIES, and her garrisons in FORMOSA, HAINAN, KOREA, MANCHUKUO and INDO-CHINA. The Japanese had about six million tons of merchant shipping to start the war with. Half a million ?) tons lost in just over six weeks is a far higher rate than their replacement ditto, and they can hardly relish Admiral Land's (Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission) recent observation that "a total of twelve million tons of merchant tonnage was in prospect for the U. S., while BRITAIN was only four million tons short of her pre-war twenty-one millions."

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TOJO'S SOFT SOAP. German propaganda is very busy trying to divert attention from their own catastrophes in RUSSIA by means of praise for the 'shattering blows' being administered to the Allies by the gallant Japanese! These broadcasts may have the additional aim of fortifying the occasionally doubtful hearts of certain thinking portions of the Japanese people, for reading between the lines of General Tojo's last speech certain misgivings can clearly be descried. We print some sentences which we defy anyone to translate as being a hundred per cent confident. They may be familiar Axis anglings for cheap conquests, but they do not breathe the conviction of inevitable triumph.

Philippines. "If the people of the islands will hereafter understand the real intentions of JAPAN (*as Manchukuo and China understand ? !*) and offer to co-operate with us as one of the partners (*sic !*) for the establishment of the Greater East ASIA Common Prosperity Sphere, they will enjoy the honour of independence."

Burma. "What JAPAN contemplates is not different from that relating to the PHILIPPINES."

N. E. I. and Australia. "If they continue as at present their attitude of resisting JAPAN, we will show no mercy in crushing them. But if the peoples come to understand JAPAN'S real intentions (*isn't it extraordinary how often people are asked to 'understand'*

Japan?) and express willingness to co-operate (*O blessed word!*) with us, we will not hesitate to extend to them our help and full understanding for their welfare and progress." (*Loud and approving cheers in Berlin, Rome and Vichy!*)

China. "It is really regretful (*a classic meiosis!*) that the Chungking Government is still continuing its meaningless resistance against us"

So far so good perhaps, but read further......

"The United States and the British Empire are, however, the countries which boast of the wealth and power that is greatest in the world. Even though they have suffered overwhelming defeats in the opening stage of the war, it is not difficult to imagine that *they will stiffen their resistance unless Japan decides the war.* We must therefore be prepared for difficulties at various points which may arise in the future, and that the present war will be a protracted one.

(*The General's English is as cloudy as his forebodings.*)

The next sentence he addresses to a country which has been bullied and starved for ten years already to drive the Japanese war-machine.

"They must be prepared," he said, for "a further extension of *civilian participation*... The urgent task of our country is to devote the total strength of the nation to win for us victories in armed combat, in keeping the fruit of victory to bring the enemy to their knees, and at the same time to accelerate the strengthening of our power to prosecute the war by our ensuring a position of winning an ultimate victory.

(*Suggested 'question' for the next College 'English' Paper. "Parse, explain and re-write in your own words the last three lines above"!*)

Finally, returning the compliments of Dr. Goebbels, the General adds: "We are profoundly gratified that our allies, especially GERMANY and ITALY, are steadily winning victories along with JAPAN for the establishment of a new World Order."

(*Especially, of course, the recent German victories in Russia and the Italian victories in the Mediterranean.!*)

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SINGAPORE "In the first phases of the Far Eastern struggle the garrisons of our Imperial outposts were up against the sea, land and air forces of a Major Power engaged in carrying out a carefully prepared plan, launched as a strategic surprise." This is how Lord Trenchard summarises the reasons for JAPAN'S having been able to acquire control over the South China Sea, and transport troops to the

MALAYA Peninsula at a rate which has gained them one airfield after another, and finally pen the defenders of the Peninsula behind the JOHORE Causeway, on the Island of SINGAPORE.

With the captiousness of anxiety, people—our own people here in the State—may say that the statement is a better explanation than excuse. To such we confidently offer the folowing elaboration of Lord Trenchard's summary.

As we suggested in a recent lecture there have been recently four notable retreats, the Germans and Italians from LIBYA, the Germans from MOSCOW, LENINGRAD and ROSTOV, the British from AGEDABYA and the British from Northern MALAYA. In every case the controlling factor has been predominance in the air. When two enormous belligerent combines are engaged in world-wide battle, with shall we say an approximate equality in air forces, the movement of squadrons of machines from one front in order to hold their own or predominate on another, involves the original front in the risk of being itself overwhelmed in the air, with consequent detriment to the fortunes of the land or sea forces there engaged.

It is perfectly true that if the Malayan aerodromes had been bristling with fighter and bomber squadrons Japanese communications could have been much more severely harassed, and our ground troops better protected. BUT, it *must* be remembered that a massed concentration of warplanes sufficient to predominate over the 53,000 square miles of the Peninsula, was beyond the capacity of the R. A. F. who are already committed to the following vital tasks elsewhere:—

Constant attacks on German shipping in the North Sea engaged on supplying Hitler's northern front in RUSSIA.

Constant protection of Atlantic convoys.

The defence of BRITAIN itself, and British airfields.

The continued and effective bombing offensive against German war-industries, and their transport by rail, road and canal.

The maintenance of air-supremacy from CAIRO to BENGHAZI and in the Sicilian channel. (Since large withdrawals of the *Luftwaffe* from RUSSIA, it is the regaining rather than the mere maintenance of supremacy, which is at the moment of paramount importance.)

The air defence of SYRIA, PALESTINE, IRAQ and IRAN.

Once more, see the war big! At the moment an approximate *total* equality in air-strength, is not enough to ensure predominance everywhere at once. But when the tremendous *potentialities* of American war-production are translated into *actuality*, the air forces of the Allies *will* be "on top" in every quarter of the globe.

SINGAPORE AND MOSCOW A COMPARISON. It looks as if large bodies of our troops have been safely withdrawn into SINGAPORE Island, which has been and still is being, steadily reinforced with troops and planes from all over the world. Thus the Japanese thrust against SINGAPORE may be compared not too fancifully with the German drive against MOSCOW. In MALAYA, as in RUSSIA, the defenders have the considerable advantage of short communications (less than 50 miles), fresh reserves, powerful anti-aircraft protection. If the defenders can hold their strong citadel up till the R. A. F. can command the sky over JOHORE, the ugly corner will have been turned.

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THE FACTOR WHICH UNDERLIES STRATEGY. I remember one thing very clearly from old "Mespot" days. It was that period of apparently pointless inactivity for some months after General Maude became Commander-in-Chief. We groused at it in our ignorance, only to realise from Maude's successes later how fine a general he was. He wouldn't move a yard until he had every detail of *supply* absolutely cut and dried !

Another very fine commander now has charge of our Eastern fortunes. The problem of supply for a widespread sea-and-land campaign must be a prodigious one, and General Wavell's own writings show what tremendous importance he attaches to the considerations that weighed so much with General Maude.

On January 22nd, Mr. Oliver Stewart made a most interesting broadcast on this very subject. We print it verbatim.

"At moments when the public is anxiously concentrating its attention on one arena," he pointed out, "the huge and complicated machinery of supply may have to be working in a totally different and perhaps entirely new arena. This period of preparation is one of the most important parts of modern war. General Wavell, in his writing, has often emphasised what a decisive part it plays............

"Our planning staffs in the Pacific area have their time-scale, which is of course secret. The gravity of our situation there depends on how the rate of enemy progress compares with the rate of our supply progress.

One of General Wavell's greatest feats, to my mind, is that in Libya he knew when to retreat. Had he yielded to the temptation to try and hold the ground he had captured from the Italians there, the air-bases might have been overrun before the equipment could be got away, and our air supremacy in the Western Desert might have been lost for good. By retiring at the right moment, our air forces in the Middle East were kept in being, and we were able to supply them and build them up again in readiness for General Auchinleck's advance.

"Obviously the general situation in the Pacific bears some resemblance to that earlier example. There will be a point and a time when it is considered that the enemy must be halted, in order to keep within our grip a starting-point for the return effort. But where and when the point and time will be, must be determined by supply. To say that this or that point must be held at all costs means nothing in modern war, and General Wavell inspires such confidence because he has shown in his writings and actions how clearly and rationally he sees this relationship between supply and fighting effort."

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PUDUKKOTTAI IS HONOURED. On the day after this goes to press, H. E. The Governor of MADRAS is to visit PUDUKKOTTAI. He will of course receive a tremendous welcome, but from none will a welcome to one who has so persistently and successfully displayed his belief in the value of war publicity be more heartfelt than from this Bureau. To mention our humble offices in the same sentence as His Excellency's own prodigious labours in a similar field is rather impertinent, but we are proud to feel that in consenting to visit the Bureau Office, so great a war-publicist confers on us at least a part of the honour he does the State by paying it a visit in the middle of one of his over-full tour programmes.

THE CHANGING ASPECT OF THE WAR.

GOOD REASONS FOR CONFIDENCE.

The following survey of the war situation on various fronts is made by the *Yorkshire Post's* Military Correspondent on January 20 :—

The United States.—The programme aims at doubling every force now in action during 1942-3, and doubling it again in 1943-4.

The Atlantic.—German power in this ocean is on the down grade. Replacement of submarines is probably not equal to losses. Safe passage of cargoes has increased at a steady rate.

Germany.—It is known that there has been a reduction in all classes of war materials. All Army reserves are now in the field or coming in. The *Luftwaffe's* strength is declining. There is growing uneasiness among the population over the losses in Russia, and at the shortage of many commodities and food supplies.

Occupied countries.—Stocks have been drained, and there is little to come forward in the future. Factory production is declining, sabotage has increased.

An organised Serbian Army has arisen, and guerilla forces are operating in Poland. Others will develop as the garrisons are weakened to reinforce the Eastern Front.

Russia.—The German Air Force has been defeated with the heaviest losses in the annals of warfare. The original German Army has been broken up. The original Russian Army has been replaced by a new one. A third Army is being equipped by Russia, the United States and Britain. The nucleus of a fourth lies back in the central provinces. Winter warfare is being forced on the enemy. Strong assaults are in prospect for February.

The Mediterranean.—The whole zone including North Africa is passing into our control.

The Middle East.—The Imperial Army holds the line from the Suez Canal to India passing behind Turkey and the Caucasus. Imperial communications are open, and all overseas arsenals are in productive touch with the forces in the field.

Malaya.—The Japanese advance from Thailand to Johore is bringing on the battle for Singapore. Our forces have been moved for the encounter. Japanese success in the Pacific hangs on its result.

China.—An attempt to knock out the Chinese Army has resulted in a Japanese defeat on a large scale. A force is moving down the Burma Road behind the enemy in Thailand. Burma is taking her full part.

The Pacific.—The Philippines forces are unbeaten, and the descent on the Dutch East Indies is thereby delayed. The surrounding of the Singapore sea area with a circle of bases is not within sight, and may never come about, as an Allied challenge is expected immediately. United States submarines are operating on Japan's coast. Dutch raiders in the South China Sea are interrupting traffic Japan has six armies overseas in Manchukuo, China, Indo-China, Thailand, Malaya and the Philippines. Without sea control all would be helpless. Sea control is the deciding factor.

General inference.—Japan entered the war in the assurance that Moscow would be captured and Russia defeated. British resources were to be turned to defending the Middle East, and India's main effort directed westward. Pacific forces will pile up against Japan.

This is the general background to a war in which Hitler is rapidly losing ground. The Malayan battle will be fought in a changing aspect as Allied strength grows.

THE LOCUSTS.

[*We reprint here a powerful indictment of the "New order"—West and East—from* ***The New Statesmen and Nation.*** Ed.]

The Greeks, naturally, have found a name for the Axis occupying troops, calling them "the Locusts." But the idea is general. In Luxemburg the people have rechristened the German nationalist movement, the *Volksdeutsche Bewegung*, V.D.B., as "Verein der Banditen." **Locusts or Bandits, the epithet is justified.** The Axis troops have surpassed all records for looting. The Germans entered Brussels at 8 a.m. on a May morning. By 3 p.m. their military lorries were rolling towards the German frontier, packed with goods out of the warehouses. Nothing escapes their notice, from manuscripts out of university libraries, and pictures out of churches, like the Wit Stwosz triptych from Cracow, to jewels and silk stockings. A Japanese general, occupying commander of a city in China, displayed his connoisseurship by arriving **with a complete list of all works of art in the possession of Chinese families.** They were requisitioned by his officers and despatched to his collection in Japan.

PERMANENT IMPOVERISHMENT.

This treasure-hunting, however, embittering though it is to nations proud of their culture, is a relatively minor matter. The wholesale commandeering of raw materials, manufactured goods, food and livestock is far more damaging. **It represents an incalculable loss in wealth in the occupied countries; hunger for all, and famine for many.** Thus every sort of food was taken from Greece, where the people are living (and many of them dying) on a quarter of a pound of barley bread a day, and literally nothing else. Even in France and Belgium the rations include about half the food values needed to sustain health; cats sell for 125 francs on the Belgian black market. The German troops in Norway have requisitioned all the meat of the country; there is no ration, however small, left over for the Norwegians. Recently every blanket in Norway was seized, leaving the people to freeze in the winter of the North. In Poland the whole population is starving, and the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto are dying at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

CURRENCY JUGGLING.

These seizures might be reckoned as a feature of conquest. But they are merely the immediate impact of a cold system of spoliation. This is largely contrived by currency-rigging. **The currencies of the occupied countries,** even those like Belgium included in the German customs frontiers, **are fixed at a rate enabling Germans to buy cheaply,** and send their purchases

home. The Belgian franc is fixed at 12.50 to the mark; every German soldier may send back a 10 lb. parcel each day; and there have been up to a million soldiers in Belgium at a time. The effect on large-scale export is that Germany maintains a favourable balance, even though she absorbs far more from the occupied lands than she returns; thus **she takes the whole metal production of Norway**, exchanging for it just enough coal and other materials to keep such Norwegian industry going as contributes to her war needs. **The rest of Norwegian industry is moribund** for want of coal and materials.

BUSINESS "RAMPS".

Payments are everywhere effected through "clearings," and national banks are all deep in debt to the Reichsbank. **Even the savings of the millions of imported workmen in Germany destined for their families are paid to the Reichsbank, and entered against the debt owed by their countries.** Their national banks may, if they can, pay the equivalent to the families of the workmen. The occupied countries have to pay the expenses of the armies of occupation, set at a fantastic figure; and the surplus is spent by the Germans in acquiring businesses. A common device is to force businesses to sell 51 per cent. of their shares to Germans; **but all which can be called Jewish**, and many others, **are simply requisitioned** at the will of the local Gauleiters or "State Secretaries." It is an ironic paradox that highly socialised States suffer most from the locust devastation, for all national possessions are seized by the German State. Thus the Skoda is now part of the Herman Góring works corporation. The Belgian State arsenal works for the German army; it is consoling to hear that it lately supplied a million and a half empty cartridges. The Czech and Polish forests are being denuded so ruthlessly that soil erosion will prevent replanting. Only one item of the **"green belt" policy is not being carried out. The industries of Poland, Central France and Greece are being spared, because of the destruction in the Ruhr by the R. A. F. Their products are needed; and Góring's order of January, 1940, to scrap Polish industry has been postponed.**

JAPAN FOLLOWS SUIT.

Japan in the Far East pursues an exactly similar policy. She has seized such Chinese industry as was not destroyed in the Scorched Earth retreat. Her "Special Service" of the army holds a monopoly of the cotton cultivation of China, for which, however, it pays such bad prices that the peasants are growing foodstuffs instead, and production is declining. The Japanese have floated five different but unsuccessful currencies, since the people stick to the old money, backed by Britain and the U. S. A., and the Japanese "ghost money" has little value.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

The Axis occupations, in their concentration upon stamping out

resistance to their rule, aim at almost all classes of the people. **Of course, they destroy political, judicial, and civil liberties**. In Belgium, for instance, 2,672 elected town councils have been dissolved, and 3,000 civic officials dismissed. The legal bodies are either abolished, as in Poland, superseded by parallel German Court, for "political crimes" or resign, like the Supreme Court of Norway The churches are systematically persecuted. Half the whole priesthood of Poland is in concentration camps. All monasteries are seized. In Luxemburg the monks and nuns were turned out at an hour's notice and run over the borders. The effect of religious persecution on a devout populace, such as that of Alsace-Lorraine, must be very deep. In Eastern countries, like Greece and Jugo-lavia, the priests are killed and the churches desecrated. The two most important sections to be attacked are probably the students and the workmen. The universities on the Continent play a part the English can hardly appreciate; they represent opportunity, democracy, the future. In Czechoslovakia they were suppressed, after the massacre of November, 1940. Two hundred and thirty Polish professors are in concentration camps or dead. In Norway and Greece many professors have resigned or been dismissed, and the universities are dying. In Luxemburg and Alsace a small percentage of students are allowed to go to German universities, where they are sedulously "re-educated" in Nazi ideology; the rest are put to labour on the roads of Germany. The youth movements everywhere except in France are dissolved, and, in the annexed countries, the *Hitler Jugend* is substituted. **Secondary education is largely abolished**, as in Poland, and where it continues the text-books are changed for Nazi propaganda, and the teachers are "schooled" in Germany. Even in occupied France the school books are censored by the Reich. The education of children is conducted with more skill than other parts of this cultural campaign. Their lesson-hours are light, there is a great deal of gymnastics and singing of Nazi songs **In the East, Japan has similarly attacked education.** Schools, universities and missions were picked out for destruction. The Chinese saved much of their education by transplanting it to the interior. But the sack of Nanking and the destruction of Pekin University concentrated upon killing students.

LABOUR'S PURGATORY.

The workmen suffer most of all. Trade Unions are abolished or turned into the *Arbeitsfront*. Where they refuse to join the Nazi organisation they are forbidden collective bargaining. Insurance and ration cards are denied the unemployed, who with the decline of trade are constantly increasing. Employers are made to dismiss unmarried and childless men. These measures are used in the West to force workmen to go to Germany. In the Central and Eastern European countries they are simply deported; **there is universal forced labour for men**

and women in the Polish Generalitat, from 14 to 60, and Polish war prisoners are also working in the German fields. No doubt the treatment of the imported workmen differs; they are not all forced to carry "P" on their breasts, as are the Poles whose employers are sent to prison if they treat them humanely. They are very generally sent to work in regions subject to British air raids. **The Belgians reckon that some 6,000 of 200,000 Belgian workers in Germany have been killed.**

A VILE POLICY.

In China, the equivalent of this attack on the workpeople is Japan's **deliberate degradation of the Chinese by opium**. Pekin and Shanghai are full of opium dens; heroin addicts are created as fast as the Japanese army can manage. At a fair at Linfen every Chinese present was given an opium-smoking apparatus as an earnest of Sino-Japanese co-operation. **Nothing like this drug policy, nothing so monstrously evil, has been pursued by any Government in recorded history.**

It is universally reported from the occupied countries that the German officials are inefficient and corrupt, so that the people live in a sort of sordid chaos. This is surprising, till one considers the type of man who would become the agent of such policy. Similar reports of Japanese corruption, especially among army officers, come from China.

OUR FACTS ARE TRUE.

The bulk of these facts are drawn from accounts of the occupied countries furnished by members of the Allied Governments to the London International Assembly, which meets periodically to establish contacts under the League of Nations Union. Two features are remarkable about them. They were separately prepared for each country, but they show a consistent plan applied by the Axis in Europe and in Asia. **The policy is to denationalise the occupied countries; but much more to degrade and sometimes to destroy their peoples.** No method, from starvation and spoliation to the suppression of higher education is omitted. The differences from East to West are of degree, not of kind. The second impression is a very curious one, and it is borne out by the resistance, strikes, and sabotage which increase in the occupied countries. It is one of inefficiency, on a long view. Many people have realised that there was much in favour of the New Order and the Co-Prosperity Sphere, if it meant great areas of planned or free trade and a heightened standard of living for the peoples. But these methods of domination mean neither the one nor the other. **They merely mean general impoverishment for the benefit of Germany and Japan.** Much more, they mean universal hatred. All the accounts agree that nobody is content with the new order, save the tiny groups of Quislings whose lust for power it slakes; and in some countries like China and France, a few rich men and great industrials, who are not expropriated and receive some of the pickings. Hitler might have based

his power securely upon benefits conferred upon his conquests. He has chosen to incur this universal suffering and resentment. This, it may well be, will prove to be the great mistake of Nazism; for the tide of hatred will, in the end, wash over his conquests and overwhelm them all.

STATE OF FEELING IN GERMANY.
WHY OPINION OF MASSES DOES NOT MATTER.
SOLDIERS AND WORKERS COUNT.
NO STRONG SENSE OF DEFEATISM YET.

The tone of home propaganda in which Goebbels is taking more active part and also the increased vigilance of the Gestapo point to an elaborate attempt to check any deterioration in the German national morale, writes the *Manchester Guardian's* Diplomatic Correspondent. The measure of its success can in no way be judged by the reaction, positive or negative, of what are generally termed non-National Socialist masses. What matters to the régime is the response or lack of response among the militant sections of the population, in other words the depth to which disillusionment and decline of confidence in a future under National Socialism have entered the hearts of the soldiers in the field and the workers on the home front. Active supporters of the movement form the decisive factor; the rest are only of secondary importance. Though they may be weary of the present conditions, they will pursue the even tenor of their way, being powerless to do otherwise. There can be no greater fallacy than to suppose that the veterans of the last War can be relied upon to form the shock troops of a revolution in Germany, or that the 4,000,000 Social Democrats and Catholics will rise as one man and reverse the present order of things.

As for those without strong political or religious sympathies of any kind, they are as great an asset to dictatorship as they are a liability to democracy. In an authoritarian State they form a highly important factor, in that while resenting they do not resist, and by their very apathy provide an element of security for the continued existence of dictatorship.

The extent to which war-weariness and doubt as to the outcome prevail among active participants on the German side is impossible to gauge. While the German soldier as the result of the Eastern campaign can no longer be so

cocksure of success or so confident of the invincibility of the instrument he serves, it is hard to tell how this change may affect the general situation. Perhaps the most that can be said is that spectacular military victories would be the only certain means of restoring to the German armies their former zest and confidence. They had become so accustomed to discipline, which under the Hitler régime is by no means confined to the fighting forces, that the rank and file may still retain a dogged determination to fight, and may still hope for ultimate victory. In other words, defeatism has not yet overcome patriotism, although the seeds of defeatism are sown.

Similar conditions prevail, it would seem, on the National Socialist home front. Fanaticism bred by devotion to the cause remains, although it now thrives on the memories of things accomplished, whereas years ago it inspired high hopes of further and final victory. The difference is subtle, but it may lead to surprising developments. Hard words, and hard facts even more, can enlighten the most benighted of men. In the higher places the crisis has already assumed more definite shape. It has become clear, not only from recent dismissals but from Hitler's own action and the prominence of the Gestapo, that friction has arisen between Army chiefs and political leaders. It originated, no doubt, with the failure in the political as well as the military sense of the Russian campaign. Realising its implications, some of the Generals, more cautious in outlook, are anxious to cover themselves against possible disaster and ensure the preservation, come what may, of Germany's military power.

FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF SOUTH CHINA SEA.
NEW STRATEGY IN THE PACIFIC.
NEED TO HOLD SINGAPORE-DARWIN LINE.
DEFEATING JAPAN THROUGH HER NAVY.

The fixed conception of the Pacific problem accepted for so many years on the basis of safe communications radiating from Singapore is gone, observes the *Yorkshire Post's* Military Correspondent on January 16. The left flank of the strategic triangle at Hong Kong, Indo-China and the Philippines is in enemy hands, but the right flank at Java and Darwin holds. Communications are straddled by the enemy, whose seizure of the sea lines has enabled him to establish a land campaign against Burma and Malaya. The problem of the Pacific has, therefore, become a fight for the **control of the South China Sea,**

by whose use alone can the capture of islands be maintained by the enemy and his forces in Thailand and Malaya kept in effective being.

Japan nurses the western line of the Pacific down the coasts of China, with the home islands as the rearward base, and the Philippines as the forward base. To cut her western sea lines is to cut Japan's strategy, and she is keeping her fleet for that challenge. In principle it is a naval war, since air power is destructive but cannot hold gains. Parachute and glider are severely limited by distances, and air power to be of use must be navy-borne.

In the new strategy of the Pacific the great Dutch reef which stretches from the Straits of Malacca to the island of Timor is a natural base and bastion, and defence of that line is the defence of Singapore, North Australia and the Indian Ocean. Our Pacific front, therefore, is Singapore to Darwin, and so long as we hold it, the limits imposed on Japanese action are leading to her destruction and fall at sea. The defeat of the Japanese Navy would cut the whole Gordian knot by isolating all her land forces. Japan's Air Force is not big enough to carry on alone. A second *Luftwaffe* would be needed, and production will never give her that or an increase in current strength beyond 2,000 machines. Although enemy land and air forces are doing well, the strategy of the Pacific is naval by reason of Japan's new conquests needing sea control as a primary factor.

The actual position in the Pacific is that four forces are operating in areas which have a bearing on the defence of Singapore. American and Filippino troops in the Philippines under the heroic General MacArthur are making great demands on Japanese forces which might otherwise be employed against the East Indies. The Dutch are operating against the enemy in Borneo and Sarawak to prevent a close approach to Singapore. The Chinese and ourselves are forming a background force on the Burma Road. The British are coming back to the defence line proper in Southern Malaya. No one underestimates the gravity of the Singapore situation, and if bad times are ahead it is satisfactory to know that considerable power is moving to readjust the consequences of Government's honourable attitude towards Thailand's neutrality.

JAPANESE EXTERMINATE FORMOSANS
294,000 KOREANS FLOGGED
TIGHTENING GRIP ON THAILAND.

Japan's cry of "Asia for the Asiatics" comes with terrible irony and mockery for those Asiatics already suffering beneath the yoke of Japanese

oppression. The international gangsters of Europe—the Nazis—make fitting partners for the criminal tyrants of the East. Though the European herrenvolk have the profoundest contempt for the Japanese "monkeys", and the Japanese warlords make only opportunist use of Nazi services, their mentality of conquest and domination is precisely the same. Indeed the Japanese may be able to teach the masters of the concentration camp and organised torture a trick or two.

NONE LEFT TO TELL THE TALE.

The terrible savageries that mark German rule in Poland are a copy of the Japanese policy of extermination in Formosa. These defenceless people were herded into corrals surrounded by electrified barbed wire; there were no survivors left to tell the tale. The Formosans are almost extinct.

The ancient culture and civilisation of Korea fell a victim to Japanese barbarities when the Koreans were taken under the wing of Japan's "protection" in 1905. The slogan used in those days by these double-faced betrayers was "sincerity, infinite love and boundless sympathy to our new brothers". Here are some descriptions of how this was expressed.

In 1939 the Japanese Governor warned the Koreans who claimed "equality of social and other status" that "such claims are not to be entertained". The practice of visiting punishment on innocent hostages has been faithfully copied by the Japanese from their German masters. The *Japan Chronicle* cites case after case of old men beaten and kicked and young girls dragged by the hair and flogged. According to Japanese Government figures between 1913 and 1918, 294,000 Koreans were flogged, in some cases to death, by the Japanese police.

BUDDHIST NUNNERY SACKED.

Japanese respect for the religion of the Koreans has been as scant as their respect for the lives of the people. The Japanese now flatter the Siamese with gestures of hypocritical homage to Buddhist shrines, but they have committed every sacrilege against Buddhism elsewhere. One of the most notorious episodes happened soon after the opening of the "China incident"—the ransacking of a Buddhist nunnery and the rape of the nuns by Japanese soldiers near Peiping; one nun was killed while three others died as the result of their terrible experience. The Korean Temple of Heaven, the holiest spot in the country, was pulled down and a commercial hotel built on its site.

The velvet-gloved grip on Thailand is becoming harsher, and the Siamese are already being forced into slave gangs to labour for the Japanese.

POLICY IN MANCHURIA.

The conquest of which Japan is proudest—Manchuria—has been subjected to every sort of savagery. Japanese policy, which claimed to bring peace and prosperity, found the country difficult to keep in subjection when its inhabitants lived in scattered communities; these people were rounded up and forced to leave their homes and live where ordered. If they demurred they were burned alive in their homes. This is but one instance of countless atrocities.

A Chinaman recently wrote after having lived in Japanese-occupied territory: "I used to think news about the brutality and rapacity of the Japanese soldiers was propaganda stuff. To-day I know that the Japanese are worse than people think."

That part of Asia which Japan has under control is the scene of every conceivable cruelty, and with German aid she is attempting to bring an ever larger sphere beneath her bloody yoke.

NOTICE.

Colonel F. C. Wall, Technical Recruiting Officer, Southern Area, Bangalore, will visit Pudukkottai on 20th February 1942. He will recruit Technical personnel (including educated men for training as clerks and storemen) for the Army on 21st February 1942 at the Residency, Pudukkottai. Persons who want to apply for any of these posts may interview the Technical Recruiting Officer on that date.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

LECTURE LXXXI—(*Batch 3*).

1942—

February ...	7, Saturday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
	9, Monday ...	Karambakkudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kottaikkadu ...	6.30 p. m.
	10, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
		Alangudi ...	6.00 p. m.
		Vadagadu ...	6.30 p. m.
	11, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
		Tirugokarnam ...	5.30 p. m.
		Annavasal ...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichchi ...	6.30 p. m.
	12, Thursday ...	Valaramanikkam ...	6.00 p. m.
		Embal ...	6.30 p. m.
	15, Sunday ...	Nirpalani ...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor ...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LXXXII—(*Batch 4*).

16, Monday ...	Town Hall ...	6.30 p. m.
17, Tuesday ...	College (A) English ...	10.15 a. m.
	Vadavalam ...	6.00 p. m.
	Malaiyur ...	6.30 p. m
18, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School ...	10.00 a. m.
	Rani's High School ...	10.15 a. m.
	College (B) Tamil ...	10.15 a. m.
	Karaiyur ...	6.00 p. m.
	Kilattanayam ...	6.30 p. m.
19, Thursday ...	Nartamalai ...	6.00 p. m.
	Uppiliyakkudi ...	6.30 p. m.
20, Friday ...	Andakkulam ...	6.00 p. m.
	Killanur ...	6.30 p. m.

PUDUKKOTTAI

HAS A REPUTATION TO MAINTAIN!

In aid of the State War Fund

A
VICTORY WEEK

will be celebrated throughout the State

from

Feb. 13th to Feb. 20th.

- **MEDALS**
- **BUTTONS**
- **FLAGS**

(bearing H. H. the Raja's effigy)

BUY! BUY! BUY!

and

HELP TO WIN THE WAR.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai, 1000—7-2-42.